



NPI Coalition Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
August 9, 2006  
1:00 p.m.

**Participants:**

**Onsite:**

Val Friedig – Facilitator - ITD  
Becky Blees – Medical Services  
Jeremy Fleckenstein – Medical Services  
Leann Bayman – Children Special Health Services  
Mark Gudmundsen – Medical Services  
Deb Dietz – Medical Services  
Tammy Henderson – Medical Services  
Shelly Peterson – Long Term Care Association  
Nora – Pride  
Linda – Custer Family Planning

**Via Phone:**

Wendy – Fiscal Department Central Billing  
Joanne – MedCenter One  
Shelly Alexander – Northwest Human Service Center, Williston  
Jamie Heller – Noridian  
Melissa – Fargo  
Tracy – Family Planning Clinic, Dickinson  
Palmer – Noridian  
Tammy and Doreen – Badlands Human Service Center

- Introductions
- Status of acquiring NPIs
  - MedCenter – about 25% complete
  - Human Service Centers – almost all have received theirs
- Website is up and running
  - the meeting minutes from previous Coalition Meetings will be posted
  - An NPI help desk link is also located on the web site.
  - Please provide us with any feedback on the site. Let us know if there is anything that you would like to see added.
- Bulk Enumeration
  - Val asked if anyone had been doing the bulk enumeration process.
  - Palmer shared that MeritCare in Fargo has been the only one so far with about 300 providers.
- Number of NPI Registrations in ND to date
  - As of 7/31 there are 2422 providers registered in ND. That included entities and individuals.
  - It would be anyone that partakes in electronic HIPPA transactions

- Val requested that anyone who has already received their NPIs share that information with Noridian
- Sharing NPI information with DHS
  - We are currently in the phase of testing a web portal where an individual or organization can share the NPI with DHS. Once we have finalized that and get beyond the testing point we will get you more information.
  - We are also in the process of developing a paper form.
- Other Information
  - We are still on track to begin accepting NPI and Legacy IDs starting October 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - The NPI numbers are free. There are certain entities out there that say they would set that up for you for a fee. You don't have to pay in order to get your NPI if you choose not to.
- Questions
  - Who needs NPIs?
    - Any entity that uses electronic healthcare transactions will need to get an NPI number in order to submit electronic transactions. We have a transition period from October 2<sup>nd</sup> through May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2007 where Medicaid will accept an NPI along with a Medicaid Legacy number. However, all large payers will require an NPI only after May 23, 2007. The individual docs will be required to get an NPI as well if they are going to be included anywhere on that HIPPA transaction.
  - How are entities getting the NPIs for referring physicians who are not part of the practice?
    - Noridian did not have an answer to this question as of yet. There are still some rules that the government has not set up yet. Noridian will get something out to our NPI help desk to answer this question as soon as it is available.
  - Once we get our NPI numbers in place, will we need to use them right away once we are assigned the numbers or can we put that off?
    - You don't have to use them right away. Medicaid will be ready to accept it, assuming you are registered on the web portal, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. But you don't have to start using it right away. You probably will want to check with all of the payers to make sure they are ready to accept it.
    - You have until May 23<sup>rd</sup>, at which time you will have to start using it. So you have roughly an 8-month period to work any kinks out. It would be advantages to you if you did start using it before May 23<sup>rd</sup> so that if there are any bugs we can work them out.
- Next Meeting
  - The next meeting is scheduled for September 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.
  - It will be held in the same location: AV Room 212 and we will use the same dial in information.
  - If you have anything that you would like to specifically discuss, please e-mail [dhsnpihelpdesk@nd.gov](mailto:dhsnpihelpdesk@nd.gov) prior to our next meeting and we will include it in our next meeting agenda.